Reopen Plan

SPRING SEMESTER
Commencing
16 January 2021
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PROGRAMS
The UConn programs/departments to be opened during CT’s Reopen Spring Semester 2021 include:

- Undergraduate residential programs (Storrs and Stamford) and non-residential and commuter students at all campuses.
- Graduate programs.
- Athletics.
- Research.
- Normal business operations across departments and all campuses.

TIMEFRAME
Intended date of classes starting: 19 January 2021
Last day of in-person classes: 9 April 2021 (Students will not return following Spring Break; the remainder of the semester, 19 April to 8 May, will be entirely online to allow for the completion of the required curriculum and final exams).
Spring Break: 11 April to 17 April 2021
The intended duration of the semester: 8 May 2021

OPENING CONSIDERATIONS
The Higher Education Subcommittee of Reopen Connecticut established “gating conditions” which, if satisfied, allowed colleges and universities to reopen in the fall of 2020. The University of Connecticut met these conditions for the fall semester and will continue to monitor these gating conditions to ensure the safety of campus operations this spring.

On 11 January 2021, the Connecticut Department of Public Health issued new recommendations for consideration in their Interim Guidance for the Reopening of Higher Education Campuses with On-Campus Residential Populations for the Spring 2021 Semester (01-08-2021). The purpose of this guidance is to provide best-practice recommendations for the reopening of campus facilities and the repopulation of students on campuses with residential populations at Institutions of Higher Education (IHE). Although not intended for IHE campuses that serve predominantly or strictly commuter students, DPH does recommend that those institutions encourage their students who live in high-risk communities to seek regular testing at one of the many free community-based COVID-19 testing locations across the state. A list of free community COVID-19 testing sites can be found at https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Priority-Populations
The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) is offering the following recommendations as a set of best-practice strategies to minimize the COVID-19 transmission and outbreak risks involved with reopening residential campuses during this time.

- **Test and Quarantine All Residential Students Before Fully Opening Campuses**

  DPH recommends the following related to testing and quarantine procedures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DPH Recommendation</th>
<th>UConn Action</th>
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| Residential students should receive a negative PCR test within the 7 days prior to their “move-in” date. | Pre-Arrival Testing: Storrs Residential students traveling to campus will complete a mail-in COVID-19 test through Vault Health 5-7 days prior to coming to campus.  
Positive Tests: Students who test positive will remain at home to self-isolate until medically cleared by Student Health and Wellness (SHaW) – Medical Care to arrive on campus.  
Negative Tests: Students who test negative will be allowed to arrive on campus for move-in.  
Unable to Test: Students arriving from outside the U.S. may not be able to access testing through Vault Health. These students are encouraged to obtain a test before traveling to campus if able and will be tested upon arrival. |
| Residential students should receive an antigen or PCR test upon arrival on campus (Day 0) and entry into quarantine. | Arrival Testing: All residential students will be tested upon arrival as part of the Res Life Check-In process. Testing will be performed during Check-In, no prior action is required. |
| Residential students should observe their entire quarantine period in residence on campus (i.e. in the dormitory where movements can be controlled) rather than at their permanent home residence or elsewhere. | Arrival/Residential Quarantine: All residential students on campus will operate under a residential quarantine until 1 February 2021. All academic instruction will be online until 1 February 2021. Dining services will be Take-Out only from 16-30 January. The Rec Center will be closed to the public. |
| Residential students should receive a PCR test at Day 7 of quarantine or later. | All residential students will be scheduled for a PCR test approximately 7 days after arrival on campus. |
| Establish a quarantine\(^1\) period based on DPH guidance. | Everyone on campus will operate under a residential quarantine until 1 February 2021. Any student who experiences symptoms of COVID-19 should seek immediate medical evaluation through SHaW – Medical Care before engaging with the campus community. |

\(^1\) It is recommended schools refer to the DPH Interim Guidance on the Length of Quarantine for Contacts of Persons with SARS-CoV-2 Infection in determining the appropriate quarantine period for their specific campus repopulation plan (https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DPH/HAI/COVID19-CTquarantineguidance12-16-20v2.pdf).
Non-residential students should be advised to severely limit their interactions with individuals outside of their household (including with the surrounding community) prior to the beginning of the academic semester.

Off-campus and commuter students, both graduate and undergraduate, for all UConn regional campuses who are registered for in-person instruction or who will be regularly working or doing research on campus are required to submit verification of a COVID-19 negative test result prior to attending their on-campus commitments. This test must be collected within 7 days of the start of in-person classes on February 1, 2021.

The university is making COVID-19 PCR testing available through a mail-in option at no cost through Vault Health. Students may also obtain testing on their own at their own expense and upload the results through the SHaW Patient Portal.

Any student who tests positive will seek medical care and clearance from isolation from their local provider.

- **Increase testing protocols for students through the end of February 2021.**

  DPH recommends that schools plan to increase their cadence for testing of students to ensure that all residential students, as well as any traditional undergraduate students residing in off-campus housing who will be accessing campus to attend classes or otherwise, are tested a minimum of once per week for January and February 2021. UConn has a robust plan in place to meet this recommendation. Testing will include the following:

  o Routine surveillance testing.
  o Symptomatic Testing
  o Pooled Sampling Testing
  o Waste Water Testing.

  Details on UConn’s testing strategy is found in Part 2 – Plan for Monitoring the Health of Students, Faculty, and Staff.

**PART 1. PLAN FOR SPRING 2021 REOPENING**

The Spring 2021 Reopen Plan covers all UConn campuses statewide (except UConn Health), including residential and commuter students, and assumes a combination of in-person, remote learning, and hybrid classes. Important to the ability to reopen campuses is UConn’s ability to continue compliance with social and physical distancing requirements in all spaces, the use of PPE (face coverings), and other barriers to prevent the spread of COVID-19, especially in areas where maintaining 6-ft of physical distancing is difficult, and following strict cleaning and disinfecting protocols across all campuses. UConn’s goal is to provide the best educational and campus experience for all students wanting to come to UConn.
A. CAMPUS POPULATIONS

The total number of students, faculty, and staff to be on campus during the Spring semester will continue to be severely limited. There are over 27,000 (undergrad and graduate) currently students registered for the Spring semester across UConn campuses. Based on reduced housing and limited in-person classes, approximate campus population numbers for Spring 2021 will be:

- **Residential Campuses**:
  - Storrs
    - Living on campus: 4,559 (in-person and all online).
    - Living off-campus but attending in-person classes: 6,385
    - Online only students: 10,423
    - Staff and Faculty: 2,804
  - Stamford\[1\]
    - Living on campus: 143 (in-person and all online).
    - Living off-campus but attending in-person classes: 225
    - Online only students: 1,920
    - Staff and Faculty: 74

- **Non-Residential Campuses**
  - Avery Point
    - Students in-person classes: 301
    - Online only students: 164
    - Staff/Faculty: 141
  - Hartford
    - Students in-person classes: 917
    - Online only students: 1,867
    - Staff/Faculty: 101
  - Waterbury
    - Students in-person classes: 316
    - Online only students: 499
    - Staff/Faculty: 54
  - Law School
    - Students in-person classes: 187
    - Online only students: 337

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\[1\] The Stamford Residence Hall is located a couple of blocks from the Stamford Campus. Not all requirements for residential students will pertain to those living in Stamford residential halls and will be clearly indicated in this document.
B. ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION

Flexible modes of course delivery planned for Spring 2021 will enable UConn to continue delivering the same outstanding education to all students while keeping safety at the forefront. These modes of instruction include:

- **Online (WW)** - These classes never meet in person, nor are students expected to be available at any particular time for classroom instruction. These courses are taught asynchronously with no pre-assigned meeting times. Students will have access to class materials online using HuskyCT.

- **Distance Learning (DL)** - These classes never meet in person, but faculty are expected to deliver instruction synchronously at the times for which the class is scheduled. Students will participate online using WebEx, Blackboard Collaborate, or Microsoft Teams.

- **Hybrid/Blended (HB)** - These classes have both in-person and online components. Classes will not meet in person for all scheduled meetings. At least 25% of mandatory instruction for the class will occur in person.

- **Hybrid/Blended Reduced Seat Time (HR)** - These classes have both in-person and online components. Classes will not meet in-person for all scheduled meetings. Less than 25% of mandatory instruction for the class will occur in person.

- **Split (SP)** - These classes will meet during all scheduled class times. However, groups of students in the class will alternate in-person and virtual attendance as designated by the instructor to maintain reduced density in classrooms.

- **In-Person (P)** - These classes will meet in person during all scheduled class times.

- **Service Learning (SL)** - This mode indicates a service learning class, with instruction times and locations to be determined by the instructor.

- **By Arrangement (AR)** – These are meant for clinical placements, field placements, independent study, internships, and research hours. They do not require a classroom or meeting time but are considered to be in person.

- **Study Abroad** – All Spring 2021 Education Abroad programs that require international travel are canceled. UConn has virtual Education Abroad programs for Spring 2021.

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[2] Graduate, professional students, and faculty/staff at UConn Health fall under UConn Health’s COVID-19 protocols and are not included in this plan. Included here for informational purposes only.
C. PHYSICAL SPACE

• Classrooms

Physical distancing is achieved through a mixed approach to instruction described in the previous section, with many distance learning courses, all or part of the time, and some courses platooning smaller cohorts of students for face-to-face meetings. Utilizing UPDC’s space analysis, a classroom optimization team takes class enrollment information and assigns classes with a face-to-face component to spaces that can accommodate a 3-ft radius “bubble” for each student. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines physical distancing as at least 6-ft or approximately two arms’ length. Some larger spaces on campuses typically not used for classroom instruction will serve this purpose.

Program directors for clinical training follow UConn established a set of guidelines that include directions concerning maximum site density, PPE (in some cases face shields and/or N-95 masks replacing cloth masks), and disinfecting procedures.

UPDC completed detailed diagrams of classroom capacity based on physical spacing requirements for Storrs and the Regional campuses. All have new seating configurations or “Do Not Sit Here” signs on chairs consistent with social distancing guidelines. Facilities Operations will configure the rooms and coordinate signage placement.

Proposed COVID-19 capacity assumptions:

- Each person is allocated a 3-ft radius “bubble” equating to 28.27 sf. Given the realities of egress around seating and space for the instructor, 28.27 sf/person increases dramatically to ~60+ sf/person.
- Matching social distancing models to actual room layout (especially in rooms with fixed seating) results in a further reduction in seating capacities, in some cases up to 80% to 85%.
- COVID-19 capacity was calculated based on similar room configurations and furniture type.
- Each classroom will have a sign with the classroom diagram to show the 6-ft physical distancing layout.

General Purpose Classroom
• **Dining Halls**

Dining Services will continue to offer a variety of menu options and all-day dining for students with meal plans. However, such offerings will be limited to meet current COVID-19 social distancing guidelines and mandates (“Dining Health Requirements”).

Dining Services will follow the State of Connecticut guidance established for restaurants.

[Reopen Connecticut – Restaurant Sector Rules (updated 23 December 2020)]

UConn safety measures include:

- Plexiglass separating servers from students.
- Using recycled and disposable utensils and containers.
- Traffic patterns for entering and exiting have been designed to reduce the risk of COVID-19 risk of exposure.
- Dining Halls will offer take-out only during residential quarantine (first two weeks of the semester).
- Open dining halls include South, Putnam, Gelfenbien, Northwest, and McMahon.
- North and Buckley Dining Hall was assigned specifically for quarantine student meals.
- Reduced indoor seating and monitoring plan developed for indoor spaces.
- Unlimited meal plan accessible to students.
- Will have outdoor seating and tent options around campus as weather permits.
- Dining halls offer take-out only to quarantine students.
- Meal delivery is provided to students under medical isolation. Dining Services staff will deliver three meals daily to students assigned to isolation spaces.
- Maintain retail as take-out and follow state and university guidance related to building occupancy.
• **Residence Halls - Storrs and Stamford campuses only**

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic will not allow the residential areas to be open at full capacity for Spring 2021. The reduced occupancy model will remain at slightly less than 50% occupancy. Safety measures implemented in the fall semester will continue. Spring housing will not be available to students who are enrolled in online-only classes for the Spring semester unless the student lived on campus during the fall 2020 semester.

  o **Storrs**

    ▪ Occupancy will be 5,500 students with priority given to returning residential students, in-person learning, hardship, athletics, and incoming students.
    
    ▪ Reduced density” refers to the occupancy levels of rooms or spaces on campus. The number of students has been limited on each to reduce the number of students sharing bathrooms to provide additional social and physical distancing for on-campus residents.
    
    ▪ Students in traditional doubles will not have a roommate in their space and that suite spaces in Busby and Garrigus will only have 2 residents per room.
    
    ▪ Some spaces that may already be considered reduced density (such as 4 Person – 4 Bedroom apartments, South Suites, double efficiency apartments, or doubles with private bathrooms) will not have the number of residents reduced for the Spring semester.
    
    ▪ For the Spring semester, isolation space has been expanded to 350 beds at the Graduate Hotel. Quarantine space has been expanded to 700 quarantine rooms.

  o **Stamford**

    Apartments in 900 Washington and Prospect will be fully occupied, the Lillian Residential Hall will be used as comfort housing for students not feeling well, etc.

  o **All Residential Campuses.**

    Students wanting to live on campus for the Spring semester will have to agree to the [Temporary Health and Safety Procedures](#) (8 October 2020) in addition to the On-Campus Housing Contract. These procedures include, but are not limited to:
    
    ▪ Roommates/suitemates/hall mates will be treated as a “family pod”. The family pod or family unit term describes groups of individuals living in close proximity to one another within university residence halls. Within the ‘family unit’ structure, students can operate as they would in a home environment. Family units include:
      
      – Residents in apartments.
      
      – Residents in a suite (two rooms connected).
      
      – Residents assigned to a residential floor (floor section) who share a communal bathroom.
      
      – The wearing of masks/face coverings and social distancing outside of the family pod will follow the guidelines as outlined in this plan. It specifically states: students will be expected to wear face coverings at all times while in the presence of others and when social distancing cannot take place. The only exception to this would be for students living in a “Family Pod.”
      
    ▪ Students will be assigned to single rooms if living in a traditional residence hall unless the room has a private bathroom.
Limited access to common areas/lounges/laundry rooms following physical distancing guidelines.

Health and Safety procedures for COVID-19 and UCONN Promise will be publicly available and consented to by students. Students will be informed of the likelihood of being placed on quarantine throughout the academic term.

Once residents begin occupying their on-campus housing, they should plan to remain on campus and limit any off-campus travel for the duration of the Spring semester.

Spring semester housing will end on Saturday, 10 April 2021. Residents are expected to remove all of their belongings and move out of on-campus housing.

Residents who cannot leave the University may submit a request to Student Affairs to remain on campus.

Residents assigned to apartments, suites, and rooms with semi-private bathrooms are responsible for the cleaning of their bathrooms. These may be inspected periodically by University staff. A schedule will be developed and shared with residents.

UConn will follow State recommendations for Dormitory Bathrooms as issued in the State of Connecticut Update # 3 to the Higher Education Report, as amended, including advising bathroom users to:

- Minimize time in all shared bathrooms.
- No cell phone use in shared bathrooms.
- Personal items should not be stored in shared bathrooms.

Guests are defined as anyone not assigned to your residence hall room-suite/apartment. This includes Storrs residential students, Stamford residential students, and all off-campus guests.

- For Spring 2021, students will not be permitted to have any guests in their room-suite/apartment at any time (day or night), including other UConn residential students.

- Storrs on-campus residents may gather with any Storrs on-campus residential student in residential building common spaces (lounge spaces and residential area community centers.) Students need to wear a mask, practice physical distancing, and comply with all posted room capacity limits.

- Family members are welcome to visit their students but these meetings cannot take place in the residential buildings. Parents and family members are considered guests and students are not permitted to host any guests in their rooms for the Spring semester.

Social Gatherings

- The maximum room capacity limit for people allowed to gather in each lounge area will be prominently posted. Residents are prohibited from gathering in numbers that exceed the maximum room capacity limit posted.

- Outdoor recreation areas adjacent to residential facilities may not exceed the Governor’s stated guidelines.

- Game rooms located within a residential area will not be open for use.
Face Coverings and Physical Distancing

- Residents must comply with all University guidelines and State of Connecticut public health mandates regarding the use of facemasks and social distancing in residential public spaces. Residents must also comply with all University guidelines related to public health in public spaces. As used herein, residential public spaces mean all spaces outside of a resident’s room/apartment/suite, including but not limited to stairwells, hallways, and laundry rooms.

Stairwells

- The University may restrict residential stairwells and hallways to one-way use. Except in times of emergency, residents are required to abide by these restrictions and limit their movement to the one-way direction so identified.

- **Museums**

UConn will follow state guidance established for museums on the UConn campuses.

[Reopen Connecticut – Sector Rules for Museums (23 December 2020)]

- **Libraries**

UConn Library will offer limited onsite services. While there is currently extensive access to materials and research support available digitally, the Library will enhance these offerings by adding curbside pickup of physical materials at Homer Babbidge Library in Storrs, and at each of the Regional Library locations. The hours available for pickup and the specific mechanisms for “curbside” offerings are still to be determined.

UConn will follow state guidance established for libraries.

[Reopen Connecticut – Sector Rules for Libraries (23 December 2020)]

- **Recreation Center**

The Student Recreation Center in Storrs and the Avery Point Athletic Facility will be open and operate with limited capacity, services, and programs. UConn Rec is committed to the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff, and will therefore follow all University and State-issued guidelines.

[Reopen Connecticut – Sector Rules for Sports and Fitness Facilities (24 December 2020)]

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2 COVID-19 | UConn Library
3 Home | UConn Recreation
- **Department and Administrative Offices**

  To protect the health and safety of the campus community and visitors, departments are required to perform a detailed risk assessment and set site-specific prevention protocols. The completion of the *Return to Campus Form*[^4] and risk assessment template serves as the department’s Protection Plan.

  Instructions for completing the assessment:
  - Complete the Workplace Risk questions applicable to your department’s physical workspace and activities performed.
  - Identify the activities, locations, and/or items associated with the risks present in your department.
  - Review the Prevention Protocols presented within the last column for strategies to minimize risks. These are in keeping with the State of CT Rules.
  - For each Workplace Risk that is present in your department, including the prevention protocols you will use in the Department Protection Plan (i.e., how you will be implementing the prevention protocols for each identified activity, location, and/or item). Be specific. For example: What will the occupancies be for each conference room, how will an activity take place, who will be cleaning shared items, etc.

  UPDC’s [COVID-19 Guidebooks for Departmental Offices](https://ehs.uconn.edu/ehs-covid-resources/) provides layouts for conference rooms, huddle rooms, open environment workspaces, workstations, and other office lounge areas to provide workers with strategies to work 6-ft apart. Examples include:

  **Office Space Layouts**

[^4]: The Return to Campus form will be on the EH&S webpage. [https://ehs.uconn.edu/ehs-covid-resources/](https://ehs.uconn.edu/ehs-covid-resources/)
• **Other Ways to Prevent Transmission - Plexiglass Barriers/Screens**
  o Plexiglass barriers may be installed in high traffic retail locations, residential dining areas, and other high traffic areas that cannot accommodate alternative strategies for doing face-to-face business. Examples of these types of areas include mailrooms, dining serving areas, key distribution operations, and cash operations.
  o Before considering plexiglass barriers, departments should first exhaust all opportunities to utilize 6-ft physical distancing strategies, such as visual cues and markers, moving desk space and workspace, and alternative business practices to avoid person-to-person contact.
    
    If the requesting department’s operation does not allow for 6-ft physical distancing and meets all other guidelines Facilities will perform a site visit with the requestor to design a solution, then schedule the construction of the barrier with the requestor. If necessary, EH&S may be consulted to review the request and make recommendations.

• **Signage**
  o Signage is a simple tool to inform individuals of precautionary actions for preventing and stopping the spread of the coronavirus on campus. Signs are posted across all UConn campuses. All signage will be standardized, reviewed, and approved by University Communications. Signage to download and print as needed. A list of COVID-19 baseline signage available to download and print is available on the [EH&S](https://ehs.uconn.edu/) website. Signage includes, but is not limited to:
    ▪ Directional signage arrows are posted throughout academic areas that include strategies such as “walk on right”, “wear mask”, etc.
    ▪ Classroom capacity and layout to support 6-ft physical distancing.
    ▪ Visual cues to assist physical distancing.
    ▪ Protocols for laboratories, shops, studios, kitchens, breakrooms, and lactation rooms.
    ▪ Elevators, stairwells, etc.

Examples

![Wait Here for Service](image-url)
**COVID-19 NOTICE**

**UCONN**

**Keep UConn Healthy**

- Keep to the Right
- Wear a Face Covering
- Maintain Distance

**COVID-19 NOTICE**

**UCONN**

**Keep UConn Healthy**

- Maintain a distance of 6 feet whenever possible.
- Take steps to protect yourself and others.

**COVID-19 NOTICE**

**UCONN**

**Keep UConn Healthy**

- This Water Fountain is for Refilling Water Bottles ONLY
- Do not drink from water fountain.

**COVID-19 NOTICE**

**UCONN**

**Keep UConn Healthy**

- Wear a Face Covering
- Maintain Distance
- Limit Elevator Rides to 2 People
- Take the stairs when you can.
COVID-19 NOTICE
STOP

ARE YOU EXPERIENCING?
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- Fever (at or above 100.4°F)
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste/smell

IN THE LAST 14 DAYS HAVE YOU?
- Had close contact with anyone diagnosed with or under investigation for COVID-19?
- Been told you should quarantine or isolate because of travel or other exposures?

IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO ANY QUESTION DO NOT ENTER

IF YOU ANSWERED NO TO ALL QUESTIONS
you may enter, provided that you have your manager’s permission to enter and comply with the following:

- Masks or cloth face coverings are required at all times.
- Maintain safe distancing, at least 6 feet from others.
- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds often. Use hand sanitizer when hand washing is not possible.
- Clean and disinfect shared objects after each use. Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces in your area daily.
D. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

PPE should be used and made available to staff with valid work-related needs. PPE protects the wearer from hazards. Cloth face coverings worn to protect other people from an infected wearer are not considered PPE. CDC and OSHA have guidelines for potentially exposed populations of employees who should wear PPE to protect against COVID-19 and/or cleaning/disinfecting chemical hazards: health care providers, first responders, housekeeping staff, etc.

- **Masks/Face Coverings**

  UConn requires every member of our community to wear a face-covering/mask in public areas and, common/shared spaces, including classrooms. If someone is unable to wear a mask, due to a medical condition, for example, Student Affairs will work with students, and Human Resources (HR) will work with faculty and staff, to identify an alternative before they return to campus. UConn provides two cloth masks to all students, faculty, and staff. Individuals should also have additional masks. Efforts are made to provide direction, signage, and supplies of face coverings. Special attention will be paid to provide guidance in busses, dining halls, lecture halls, conference rooms, elevators, and shared hallways of buildings where close contact may be otherwise unavoidable.

  - **Face coverings/masks**
    - Students - students are expected to wear face coverings at all times while in the presence of others and when social distancing cannot take place. The only exception to this would be for students living in a "Family Pod."
    - Employees - face coverings must be worn in the workplace per CT rules. Currently, they are allowed to be removed once you arrive at your office/cubicle and to eat/drink.
    - Non-employees - CT rules require cloth face coverings when people cannot maintain a 6-ft or more distance from others. Visitors will be required to wear a cloth face-covering/mask to enter a University building.
    - Face coverings/masks need to be laundered regularly.
    - Supplies:
      - On the Storrs campus, Residential Life provides facemasks to students. Masks can also be picked up at the UConn Book Store - free of charge with a valid UConn ID.
      - Academic staff and faculty will be able to get masks from their respective Schools. All other staff receives masks through their department.
      - Regional campuses have their own distribution program under the auspices of the Campus Director.
      - Masks will be University-supplied to the extent feasible but students, faculty, and staff may also supply their own.

  - **N95 Masks**
    - N95 Masks need only be used by staff, students, or faculty who have a valid work-related need for that level of protection, and who have been fit-tested.
Those currently required to wear this level (N-95 masks) will continue to use PPE.

- **Education on what mask is appropriate (N95/cloth/surgical masks)**
  - Are based on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines.

- **Gloves** - Handwashing and hand sanitizer use should be encouraged over glove use.

### E. DISINFECTION/CLEANING

Cleanliness and sanitation of all facilities is an important practice in the mitigation of COVID-19 transmission. UConn will follow the State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health, and CDC guidelines to ensure proper sanitation of facilities on an ongoing basis. Instruction and support will be given to Facilities and custodial staff to ensure that all facilities are being sanitized appropriately to prevent the spread of infection. UConn’s plan for cleaning and disinfecting includes, but is not limited to the following areas:

- **Hand Sanitizer**
  
  Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available at entrances for all buildings, as well as entrances for classrooms, and dining halls stocked by Facilities. Hand sanitizer in gallon jugs with pumps may be used where appropriate. Supplies will be checked and dispensers refilled as necessary.

- **Spray Bottle With Disinfectant**
  
  Facilities will provide cleaning/disinfecting supplies⁵ for commonly used surfaces. Spray bottles containing a disinfectant and paper towels or disposable wipes will be available for all classrooms, bathrooms, and shared spaces on all campuses.

- **Hand Washing**
  
  Students, faculty, and staff are reminded frequently to wash their hands through clear and accessible messaging utilizing numerous UConn platforms, including but not limited to:

  - EH&S Mandatory COVID-19 safety training⁶ that includes instruction on physical distancing, wearing of face coverings, hand hygiene, and sanitation.
  - Signs at all building entrances alert people to not enter the building if they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and provide safety information including promoting handwashing.
  - A community commitment to follow health and safety protocols.
  - SHaW Website⁷ - COVID-19 FAQs – “What I can do to stay healthy and protect myself.”
  - Messaging will follow CDC guidance:

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⁵ [Facilities Operations COVID-19 Resources | Facilities Operations (uconn.edu)](https://ehs.uconn.edu/ehs-covid-resources/)
⁶ [https://ehs.uconn.edu/ehs-covid-resources/](https://ehs.uconn.edu/ehs-covid-resources/)
⁷ [Student Health and Wellness | Student Health and Wellness (uconn.edu)](https://studenthealth.uconn.edu/)
- **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public space, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

- **General Cleaning**
  - High touchpoints such as doorknobs, light switches, and handrails are cleaned multiple times daily, in addition to thorough and regular cleaning of bathrooms, common areas, and open spaces.
  - The sanitizing of high-risk areas are done frequently.
  - Where appropriate, doors should be propped open to limit touch areas.

- **Cleaning Plan in Residence Halls**
  - Spray bottles with a 10% bleach solution or acceptable alternative will be provided to suite and apartment bathrooms.
  - Facilities can accommodate Monday-Friday disinfection and cleaning utilizing existing staff.
  - Weekend Cleaning in Traditional Style Residential Areas: State guidance recommends, “Multi-stall communal bathrooms should be fully cleaned/disinfected by housekeeping staff a minimum of once daily, using products that meet EPA’s criteria for use against COVID-19.”
  - Facilities will add weekend staffing to meet state guidelines.

- **Classroom Cleaning**
  - Classrooms will be supplied with disposable wipes or spray bottles and paper towels for students and faculty to disinfect between classes, as appropriate.

**F. CAMPUS ACCESS**

In support of efforts to protect health and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic, access to campus buildings and facilities, including regional campuses and the Law School (not including UConn Health), is limited to authorized students and employees or others who have a defined need and approval for access. Limiting visitor access is consistent with recommendations in the report from the Higher Education Subcommittee – Reopen Connecticut and CDC guidance to Institutions of Higher Education, which advises limiting non-essential visitors. The [UConn Campus Visitor Guidelines](http://uconn.edu) are based on the sector rules of the Connecticut departments of Public Health and Economic and Community Development as of November 15, 2020, and will remain in effect at UConn until further notice.

**G. MOVE-IN PROCESS**

- **Storrs Move-In Plan**
  - Students offered on-campus housing must sign up for a time to check into their assignment.
  - Check-in will be conducted on 16-17 January 2021.
There will be no early arrivals or late arrivals (unless the student is recovering from COVID-19 at home), and preventative residential quarantine is required.

Students are tested upon check-in. Students will receive their COVID-19 test and room key before moving into their residential facilities.

Students who test positive will be moved to medical Isolation spaces and will return to the residential community only when medically cleared; spaces will include bedding packs, cleaning supplies.

Residential students will self-quarantine for 14 days upon arrival. Classes begin on 19 January and will be online the first two weeks of the semester.

Students will be assigned to one of the following locations to be tested and to pick up their keys. Each location is based on where their Spring 2021 housing assignment is.

- Innovation Partnership Building (IPB) at UConn Tech Park, 159 Discovery Drive, Storrs, CT 06269
- Hugh S. Greer Field House (Blue Gym), 2111 Hillside Road, Storrs, CT 06269
- Wolff-Zackin Natatorium, 2095 Hillside Road, Storrs, CT 06269

**Stamford Move-In Plan**

- Students offered on-campus housing must sign up for a time to check into their assignment.
- Check-in will be 16-17 January 2021.
- There will be no early arrivals or late arrivals (unless the student is recovering from COVID-19 at home), and preventative residential quarantine is required.
- Park at Government Center Garage, 888 Washington Blvd, Stamford, CT.
- Proceed to **900 Washington Blvd, Stamford, CT** check-in location for room assignment, keys, and COVID-19 testing. COVID-19 test will be required for all residential students.

**Families Dropping Off Students**

The parents and families dropping off students will need to comply with the parameters established by the Governor's Travel Advisory according to Executive Order 9S. While it is an individual responsibility to abide by the Travel Advisory, the guidance that we will be sending out to the students includes details regarding the Travel Advisory to include direct links to the state website.

**Emergency Operations Center**

The UConn Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be Virtually Partially Activated to support the Move-In Weekend from Saturday, 16 January 2021 to Sunday, 17 January 2021. Key UConn Departments and Division Liaisons will log in and a daily in-briefing will be conducted at 0800 hrs (8:00 a.m.) each day via WebEx. This will be followed by two additional updates at 1130 hrs (11:30 a.m.) and 1545 hrs (3:45 p.m.) each day. After the activation, EOC Liaisons will be on-call.

The following Departments and Divisions within UConn will be represented.

- UConn Police Department
- UConn Fire Department
- Office of Emergency Management
- Student Affairs
H. STUDENT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

- Student Orientation
  Due to ongoing concerns about COVID-19, UConn’s Student Orientation program will continue to be online for all students entering UConn in Spring 2021. Online Orientation is a module that helps first-time degree-seeking students (First-Year, Transfer & International) make a smooth transition to the University of Connecticut. The online Orientation module is comprehensive and designed to cover all the academic and business processes that would have been completed in the on-campus Orientation program. The online Orientation program will take all new students through a module that covers important university information, support services, and presentations that are important to a new student’s transition to UConn. The module also contains academic and pre-advising information that will prepare students to meet with an academic advisor to register for classes. There are specific orientation programs for Storrs and each of the regional campuses.

- Campus Community Events and Activities
  The Department of Student Activities developed the Spring 2021 Campus Community Event, Activities, and Recreation Implementation Plan to establish processes that try to balance the physical distancing needs, and reduced program space capacity, with the desire to create community among members of the University community, especially for students. The plan contains:
  o Key State of Connecticut rules and University guidelines.
  o Review capacity restrictions of indoor and outdoor space and the corresponding procedures to facilitate a revised reservation process.
  o Framework for holding programs and activities in place of new rules and guidelines.
  o Review of major University events to determine compatibility with current rules and guidelines.
  o UConn Recreation Reopening plan.
  o Reimagined community development opportunities for the quarantine period and the duration of the Spring semester.
I. ATHLETICS

UConn Athletics continues to follow its COVID-19 Action Plan that contains all appropriate state, federal, and NCAA health, and safety guidance for student-athletes, coaches, and staff.

Student-athletes, coaches, and other Athletic personnel are trained on current recommendations for infection control through a variety of methods with special emphasis on physical distancing, hygiene, symptoms, and health monitoring.

- UConn Athletics will follow state and NCAA regulations/restrictions on athletic programs. Additionally, Avery Point Athletics is guided by the NJCAA.
  - [https://www.njcaa.org/general/2019-20/releases/20200618nx2y02](https://www.njcaa.org/general/2019-20/releases/20200618nx2y02)
- Spring Athletics
  - Arrival - January 3-4th, 2021- All fall and spring student-athletes (except football and rowing: approx. 320 athletes) will be returning to campus.
  - Re-entry testing will occur upon arrival.
  - Student-athletes will quarantine until test results are available.
  - After the first negative test, a modified quarantine will begin.
  - Surveillance testing will occur 2-3x per week for a full 14 days after arrival.
  - Student-athletes will be able to access athletic facilities only with their family pod.
  - Family pods will combine as dictated by the health of the team and the proximity of their first competition scheduled. This is to allow for safe acclimatization of activity.
  - Athletics staff will be tested on arrival and undergo 2-3x weekly testing for the first 14 days.
  - Athletes and Athletics staff will be subject to all the same risk mitigation strategies and guidelines that applied in the fall.
  - Testing will be performed weekly on all fall/spring sport athletes and all inner bubble staff affiliated with those sports
  - Testing will be performed three times a week on all winter sports athletes and all inner bubble staff affiliated with those sports.
  - All isolation guidelines remain the same as last semester.
  - Quarantine guidelines may be altered based on the new updated CDC guidance as it pertains to how early teams can start to practice with one another if certain criteria are met during quarantine. However, any team placed into quarantine based on presumed exposure would continue to follow all quarantine protocols (masking, social distancing, no in-person classes, eating in quarantine dining hall) when outside of athletic activities with his/her team.
  - As of now, no athlete exposed to COVID-19 and therefore in quarantine will be permitted to compete against another team until the full 14-day quarantine is complete.
J. CAMPUS TRANSPORTATION

Protocols for operating campus HuskyGo transit to reduce interaction between the drivers and riders, and between riders is provided below. This guidance is from the CT Department of Transportation on how they are operating public buses during the pandemic.

- Where possible only allow rear door boarding except in the case where a rider needs access to a ramp.
- Riders must wear a mask unless they have a medical reason not to.
- Seats are marked for social distancing. On smaller vehicles, consider installing sneeze guards between rows of seats.
- Driver barriers are installed.
- Where possible, increase service to reduce the potential for crowding.
- Drivers should monitor passenger loads and pass by stops if they can’t take more passengers.
- High touch surfaces should be cleaned twice a day and more intense cleaning once a day.

K. STAFFING

In response to the coronavirus, UConn Human Resources (HR) has developed policies, procedures, and flexible work options to provide for the health and safety of all UConn faculty and staff.

Beginning on March 12, 2020, UConn HR has continually provided guidance to staff and faculty on what to do if they were diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19, along with the general reminder for individuals not feeling well to stay home from work. This information along with isolation and quarantine guidance was issued through university email and the UConn coronavirus public education webpage. UConn’s HR continues to update staff and faculty with information and advice as necessary. Employees

11 Home | Human Resources (uconn.edu)
who come to work and become ill while there are advised to immediately separate themselves from others, inform their supervisor of their illness, and go home. Individuals are advised to contact their primary care physicians.

- **Special considerations** may need to be made for staff and faculty with a higher likelihood of serious illness from COVID-19. These individuals include:
  - Employees with underlying health conditions.\(^\text{12}\)
  - Employees whose household member has documented underlying health conditions.
  - Employees over age 65.

- **Flexible Work Options for Faculty and Staff**
  - **Faculty**
    Where possible, UConn allows faculty or instructors to provide instruction online or with limited class sizes to reduce health concerns. It is up to the faculty member to work with their dean on these issues. Faculty members will not be denied reasonable accommodations. Students and faculty will have the option to have an exclusively online semester.
  - **Staff**
    Where possible, the University encourages employees to work with their manager about telecommuting or establishing a flexible/rotational schedule that ensures the employee’s safety to the greatest extent possible while in the workplace. The current policy is to encourage telecommuting. Individuals on campus are responsible for following all applicable safety protocols, including social distancing, and wearing face coverings/masks.

Employees may also work with their manager and HR to participate in the Employee Exchange Program to pursue an appropriate temporary reassignment.

Employees who are unable to find a solution among the above options may request to use accrued time off (personal, compensatory, vacation). Employees who are caregivers may request FMLA caregiver leave. Upon exhausting their accrued time off, employees may request an unpaid personal leave, which is subject to management approval based on operational needs. Work options are:

- **Telecommuting:** Employees plan to work from home with supervisor approval for positions where telecommuting is possible and appropriate. Return to campus will be at the direction of the individual’s manager or supervisor. Telecommuting is highly encouraged by the Governor.

- **Schedule Changes:** Work and class schedules may be modified through shifts or days of operation. Staggered shifts or rotational shifts should be encouraged whenever and wherever possible, for students, faculty, and staff. Faculty could offer the option for students to either attend classroom sessions or view live instructions remotely, resulting in fewer students on campus. Additionally, a phased approach to returning students to campus is recommended.

- **Rotational Schedule:** In certain instances, managers may use “rotational” schedules for areas that are not conducive to telecommuting.

\(^{12}\) CDC Guidance – People Who Are at Higher Risk For Severe Illness
L. TRAVEL

The University’s travel guidance applies to all faculty and staff on the Storrs and Regional campuses. Separate guidance is in effect for employees at UConn Health. UConn’s travel guidance implements stricter protocols at the University than those required by the Governor’s Executive Orders and the travel and return to work advisory issued by the Department of Public Health. Employee domestic and international travel guidance for Storrs and the regional campuses is on the Human Resources website and includes guidance on:

- Domestic travel to an affected state.
- International travel to an affected country.
- Travel for work or on government business by an essential employee.

Please refer to the HR website for further details and a required domestic travel registry. Travel Advisory for Connecticut During the COVID-19 Pandemic.

M. PUBLIC EDUCATION, COMMUNITY BUILDING, & OUTREACH

Communication is a key aspect in the facilitation of a positive, healthy, and safe re-entry to UConn campuses for faculty, staff, students, contractors, and visitors. Messaging needs to be timely, transparent, clear, concise, frequent, and easily accessible.

A comprehensive communications plan, led by University Communications will be coordinated with representatives from multiple university divisions and departments, including but not limited to Student Affairs, Provost Office, Human Resources, Facilities Operations, and Public Safety. University Communications will implement procedures in the Emergency Communication Protocol and Training manual, as appropriate.

The UConn community will be kept up to date on campus operations and the coronavirus pandemic through the UConn website, email to the university community, and through various social media platforms. Plans for educating and engaging the UConn community to maintain a safe campus include mandatory COVID-19 safety training on physical distancing, wearing of face coverings, hand hygiene, campaigns to support one another and commit to following health and safety protocols, as well as other student, staff and faculty outreach opportunities.

- Official UConn information can be found here:
  - Reopen UConn – https://reopen.uconn.edu/
  - Student Health and Wellness - https://shs.uconn.edu/coronavirus/

- Town Halls

Virtual Town Hall meetings allow the audience to live stream events and submit questions in real-time. UConn President Thomas Katsouleas and other University leaders conducted numerous virtual Town Hall meetings during the fall 2020 semester to discuss COVID-19’s impacts on University administration, operations, and academics. UConn will continue to use the virtual Town Hall format to reach and communicate with the UConn community. UConn’s Town Hall meetings can be found on YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/UnivofConnecticut/videos
Community Building

- U-Kindness\(^{13}\): The University will continue to use a centralized provision of resources, opportunities, and information for students in its 'Kindness portal' (https://kindness.studentaffairs.uconn.edu/).

Specifically, the University’s UKindness initiative is a University-wide initiative intended to inform, engage, and connect with students throughout the University during the COVID-19 pandemic. Reimagined for the 20-21 academic year, the portal provides information on a variety of student-focused areas including, but not limited to:

- Staying Healthy
- Staying Active
- Maintaining Academics
- Staying Connected (to UConn and other students)
- Quarantine Tips
- Our Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

\(^{13}\) https://kindness.studentaffairs.uconn.edu/
o **OneUConn**: the OneUConn COVID-19 Promise was developed for students to encourage them to commit to a safe and healthy environment. As a condition for living on campus during the Spring 2021 semester, students must agree to abide by the behaviors outlined in the UConn Promise.

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**One UConn: Our COVID-19 Promise**

We are One UConn, and now more than ever, we need to embrace and support the diversity of our community. In making this promise, I commit to do my part to protect the health and safety of myself and those around me. I will always seek to learn and develop myself while respecting the needs of others.

As my One UConn Promise, I will practice compassion, understanding, and respect. In making this promise, I acknowledge the harm of hateful and racist behaviors that discriminate against others. I stand aligned with our communities who have experienced greater vulnerabilities to mistreatment during COVID-19.

I promise to always:

- Respect the diversity of ideas and opinions expressed regarding global issues and seek civil discourse.
- Be an ally for individuals who have experienced bias and discrimination.
- If I am made aware of acts of discrimination, I will contact the Office of Institutional Equity.
- Acknowledge that, while students, staff, and faculty will vary in how they continue to maintain connection to the University, we are all committed to One UConn and supporting each other.

Furthermore, during the COVID-19 pandemic, I will:

- Wear a mask or face covering.
- Maintain at least six feet of physical distancing.
- Wash my hands often—for at least 20 seconds—or use hand sanitizer frequently.
- Follow university rules regarding gathering sizes, pedestrian traffic patterns, and other new regulations designed to promote safety and good health.
- Monitor daily for COVID-19 symptoms and inform health services or my healthcare provider regarding any changes in my health status.
- Commit to medical isolation, quarantine, or other medical direction when advised to do so by a healthcare provider.
- Attend to University communications regarding COVID-19 updates.
- Maintain all immunizations including an annual flu vaccine.

We are ONE UConn.

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**Training and Professional Development**

UConn designed and developed numerous training and professional development opportunities for staff, faculty, and students to adapt to the changes in the working and learning environment in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Training includes preparing for distance education, best practices in online teaching, strategies for motivating students, managing student stress, and workshops for utilizing online meeting platforms and conducting successful virtual conferences. UConn’s eCampus provided resources for faculty and staff to successfully engage in an online...
learning environment. University Information Technology’s IT Guide to Telecommuting provides tools to access University email, share documents, host web meetings, and accessing other resources remotely to be able to work remotely.

- https://ecampus.uconn.edu/keep-teaching/
- https://onlinestudent.uconn.edu/
- https://confluence.uconn.edu/ikb/it-guide-to-telecommuting

UConn developed a free non-credit COVID-19 multi-disciplinary course for graduate students, staff, and faculty. The class – “The COVID-19 Pandemic: Impacts on Health, Business, and Society” – was first taught virtually in the spring and was completed by 4,200 undergraduates, making it the largest class in UConn history. Another 650 undergrads are taking the course this summer while some 1,200 faculty and staff have also completed it. The course is now offered to alumni.

N. ENFORCEMENT

- **On-Campus** – The primary enforcement of on-campus violations of COVID-19 transmission prevention measure will be handled administratively through progressive discipline. Increasing or serious violations of these measures will be referred to the UConn Office of Community Standards for adjudication according to the Student Code of Conduct. Violations will be reported through existing protocols for student behavior.

Further, the Department of Residential Life has created Health and Safety Procedures that are specific expectations for the unique residential environment resulting from COVID-19. Failure to follow these procedures can result in a loss of housing.

The UConn Police Department (UCPD) is the primary law enforcement unit for all property owned, controlled, or occupied by the University of Connecticut statewide. UCPD will be following the Reopening CT-Enforcement Guidance issued on 19 May 2020. It should be noted that utilizing CGS 19a-131a (d) will be limited for the most serious and egregious violations as this charge results in an arrest and subsequent court date.

- **Off-Campus** – The Connecticut State Police is the primary law enforcement unit for all non-UConn property in Mansfield. The Stamford Police Department is the primary law enforcement unit for all non-UConn property in Stamford. Both Departments have established protocols to refer student behavior, including violations of the law, to UConn for Student Code of Conduct review. Both Departments will have the primary responsibility to enforce CGS 19a-131a (d) on non-UConn property. UCPD routinely collaborates with both agencies and will assist in the enforcement of violations of CGS 19a-131a (d) when requested.

O. LIABILITY

The Report of the Higher Education Subcommittee to the Reopen Connecticut Advisory Group established by Governor Lamont recommended that institutions of higher education in Connecticut be permitted to reopen if certain gating conditions are met and that institutions meeting those conditions be provided a “safe harbor” from liability. Specifically, the recommendation was that institutions be given immunity for claims for money damages based on an allegation that someone contracted COVID-19 during the 2020-2021 academic year. In addition, the American Council on Education recently sent a letter to members of Congress urging it to “quickly enact temporary and targeted liability protections [for institutions of higher education] related to the COVID-19 pandemic.” To date, no such safe harbors or targeted liability protections for institutions of higher education have been enacted.
Governor Lamont issued an Executive Order No. 7U on 5 April 2020 which provides additional protection from civil liability for health care professionals and facilities for acts or omissions taken in good faith in support of the state’s COVID-19 response.

As a state institution of higher education, however, UConn is entitled to sovereign immunity. When sovereign immunity has not been waived either by the General Assembly or expressly by statute, the principle of sovereign immunity acts as a bar to any claim for money damages against the state or its employees.

The General Assembly has authorized the state’s Office of the Claims Commissioner to “authorize suit against the state on any claim which, in the opinion of the Claims Commissioner, presents an issue of law or fact under which the state, were it a private person, could be liable.” The Claims Commissioner may dismiss a claim, award damages up to $20,000, recommend to the General Assembly payment of damages in excess of $20,000, or authorize a claimant to sue the state in superior court. In the absence of a showing of negligence, the state/UConn will not be liable for damages.

State employees, including all of UConn’s employees, are entitled by law to be defended and indemnified by the state for acts and omissions occurring in the course of their employment or while carrying out their official duties, even if their conduct is negligent.

The only circumstance in which a UConn employee acting within the scope of their employment would not be fully protected from civil liability is if they acted in a “wanton, reckless, or malicious manner.”

PART 2 – PLAN FOR MONITORING THE HEALTH OF STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF

UConn’s approach to testing our community is straightforward: if a student or employee is coming to any UConn campus because they have to be there, they should be tested. This includes faculty, staff, and commuter students on every campus, both graduate and undergraduate. There is not a “one-size-fits-all” approach to accomplishing this, so the university will utilize different avenues and strategies.

UConn will not be testing faculty, staff, and students who are not coming to campus this semester. This includes students who are online only and not living in a residence hall, faculty who are teaching only online courses, and staff who are telecommuting, which is a substantial segment of our population.

A. STUDENT TESTING

COVID-19 testing, when integrated with social distancing policies, plays an important role in controlling the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, it is important to create a testing strategy that supports the ability to have reliable and accurate testing that aids in monitoring and containing COVID-19 as a key component of success for a safe campus. A comprehensive testing strategy for COVID-19 is a gating condition for colleges and universities, as outlined in the Connecticut Report of the Higher Education Plan to Reopen. The UConn testing recommendations as found in the Spring 2021 Student Medical Services Plan for students are as follows:

- **Re-entry Testing (Pre-entry and Arrival) Plan**
  - Pre-entry Testing will be required of all residential students for the Storrs and Stamford campuses prior to departing from their home for UConn with a Vault administered test. Students who test positive will be directed to isolate at home until cleared for re-entry.
  - For Arrival Testing (Re-Entry), all residential students returning to campus will have a SARS-CoV-2 PCR Test immediately upon arrival to campus administered by UConn Student Health & Wellness (SHaW).
o All residential students will be required to self-isolate until they receive their negative Arrival COVID-19 Test result followed by a quarantine period for a combined minimum of 14 days. The first two weeks of academic instruction will be online only.

o Residential students who test positive on arrival will be directed to return home if they live locally and can isolate there safely. If they cannot return home, they will be assigned to an isolation space in residential housing. Isolation space has been expanded to include 350 beds at the Graduate Hotel. Quarantine space has been expanded to 700 quarantine rooms. Quarantine rooms will be used for residential students where the identified close contact is outside of the family unit.

o Off-campus students with in-person learning or other on-campus responsibilities will also be tested (Storrs, Stamford, and Regional Campuses) via the Vault Test the week of 25 January 2021.

o Immunizations are offered for Immunization Compliance to all students who arrive on campus. SHaW will coordinate immunization compliance for regionals. Students will be required to have documentation of immunization and COVID-19 testing compliance upon arrival.

o Utilize Hilda May, Student Union, and Field House for student medical care (immunization/flu clinics, COVID-19 testing, and medical care).

o SHaW will be enrolled in the VAMS COVID-19 Vaccine Program and have a vaccination distribution plan in place for approval by the state.

o Students with pre-existing medical conditions will be advised of the risks associated with living in a congregate setting during a pandemic.

- Surveillance Testing Plan
  - Asymptomatic Testing
    - Per Connecticut Department of Public Health recommendations, all residential students and students attending or working on the Storrs campus will be tested weekly through February.
    - Routine screening of asymptomatic Storrs students will be conducted via a SARS-CoV-2 PCR Test. The goal is 300 tests per day/5 days a week. Surveillance testing for the Storrs campus includes on and off-campus students.
    - Routine screening of asymptomatic residential Stamford students of at least 10% of the residential population/week.
    - “Active Monitoring” will occur for all students in self-quarantine/self-monitoring to rapidly detect potential COVID-19 infections. We will use an automated daily symptom check for self-monitoring/medical communication for Storrs based students.
    - COVID-19 PCR testing of students in medical quarantine will be offered days 5 through 14.
  - Wastewater Testing
    - UConn will conduct wastewater monitoring on the Storrs campus for residential and off-campus students to detect the presence of COVID-19.
    - Targeted wastewater surveillance can predict spikes in COVID-19 levels within the community.
    - Additional Pooled Sampling will be conducted where COVID-19 levels are increasing.
There will be a minimum of sixteen wastewater-sampling sites targeting residential locations for the Spring Semester. Additional sites will be added as appropriate. Samples will be collected twice weekly.

- Pool-Sampling:
  - Pooled Sampling will be in place for our residential students conducted at a rate of 5,000 tests per week, targeting one test per week of each Storrs residential student.

**Storrs Testing Spring 2021**

- **Athletics Testing**
  - Testing for student-athletes and Athletics staff will be done through the Department of Sports Medicine.
  - Re-entry testing will occur upon arrival.
  - Student-Athletes will quarantine until test results are available.
  - Surveillance testing will occur 2-3x per week for a full 14 days after arrival.
  - Athletics staff will be tested on arrival and undergo 2-3x weekly testing for the first 14 days.
  - Testing will be performed weekly on all fall/spring sport athletes and all inner bubble staff affiliated with those sports.
  - Testing will be performed three times a week on all high-risk sports athletes and all inner bubble staff affiliated with those sports.
  - Athletes exposed to COVID-19 and in quarantine, will not be permitted to compete against another team until the full 14-day quarantine is complete.
• **Symptomatic Testing Plan**

Per the CDC guidance, people with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Muscle or body aches
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Diarrhea
- Cough
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Nausea or vomiting

  o Storrs students with symptoms of potential COVID-19 infection will be evaluated and tested as soon as possible. SHaW will perform testing for residential and non-residential students at the Storrs campus.

  o Regional Campus Students, including residential and nonresidential Stamford students, should consult with their primary care physician and be tested at one of the many testing sites across the state. Regional campus students should report test results to the Student Affairs Office on their campus.

  o Asymptomatic persons who are identified as close contacts of persons with confirmed or probable COVID-19 should be tested. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines a close contact as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over 24 hours* starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

**B. FACULTY AND STAFF TESTING SUMMARY**

Faculty and staff who are required and approved to work on campus to accomplish their primary job functions will have COVID-19 PCR testing made available at no cost to them through a partnership with UConn Health. Baseline testing for employees listed on the On-Campus Registry will take place before the commencement of the Spring semester. UConn encourages and expects those who have these tests made available to them, to take the test.

• **Storrs: On-Campus Testing**

  Through the Spring 2021 semester, COVID-19 potential exposure and surveillance testing will continue at Hawley Armory on the Storrs campus for employees.

  **Spring 2021 Hawley Armory Testing Schedule**

  Mondays: 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
  Wednesdays: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
  Fridays: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

  Faculty and staff eligible for testing and approved to return to campus and who are returning from out of the state for the start of the Spring semester should incorporate the potential for a 14-day
quarantine period into their travel plans. Please refer to the HR website for further details and a required domestic travel registry.\footnote{Employee Domestic and International Travel | Human Resources (uconn.edu)} For more information on returning to campus and faculty and staff testing FAQs, visit UConn HR's Employee COVID-19 Testing page.\footnote{UConn Employee COVID-19 Testing | Human Resources}

- **Regionals: Available Testing**
  HR will offer COVID-19 potential exposure and surveillance testing to regional employees through CVS, Vault, or UConn Health in Farmington or Storrs. Additional guidance will be issued on the HR website.

- **Faculty and Staff Allowed and Approved to be on Campus – On-Campus Registry**
  The University continues to de-densify the Storrs and regional campuses. Individuals currently working from home will continue to do so unless approved by the University to return to campus. If asked to return, individuals will receive at least two weeks’ notice before return to the campus where possible.

  Therefore, most employees are expected to telecommute through the Spring 2021 semester unless the primary duties of the job require them to be on campus full-time or on a significantly limited basis with manager approval and University authorization. The only faculty and staff (including post-doctoral scholars) that will be allowed on the campus will be the following categories of employees before, during, and after reentry:

  o **Direct Contact with/Support for Students** - defined as close professional contact with students within 6-ft for more than 15 minutes as a primary job function. For example, a classroom instructor in-front of students; residential life staff, certain academic functional assignments, staff providing continued window service; or a food/retail service professional. Even with these roles, where telecommuting or rotational programs can be supported, they should be.

  o **Critical Infrastructure Support** - defined as a role with or without direct student contact on a full-time basis where all primary job functions cannot be done remotely, such as facility operations, police/fire, animal care, and support. It does not include work that is “preferred” to be accomplished onsite or non-critical infrastructure work by an employee or manager or any such work that can be done remotely in areas outside these critical infrastructure responsibilities.

  o **Part-Time or Rotational Critical Support Functions often with No Direct Contact with/Support for Students** – defined as roles that include some and limited critical administrative functions that cannot be done remotely, such as some financial, payroll, administrative, and HR functions for a small number of hours per day for 1-2 days per week. It does not include work that is "preferred" to be onsite or non-critical infrastructure work by an employee or manager or any such work that can be done remotely. Employees and those in this category should be less than 15% of a manager's staff.

  o **OVPR-approved research**: any faculty or staff employees currently approved to be working in labs via the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR). Those unable to work in the labs or who cannot telecommute should be noted.

  o **Research, remote-teaching, or related activities that can be done from your office on a limited-time basis**: individuals who plan to use their office for a limited period of time to support research, remote teaching, or other related activities. In
doing so, you must abide by all university mask and social-distancing protocols. This access is meant to support the limited use of our campuses while also supporting de-densification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Testing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On-Campus Research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Staff and Faculty (including Post-Doctoral)</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Campus Direct Contact/Support with/for Students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Residence Hall Directors (Storrs &amp; Stamford)</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Full-Time or Part-Time Faculty or Staff (All campuses)</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Campus Critical Infrastructure Support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Full-Time Staff</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Campus Part-Time or Rotational Critical Support Functions often with No Direct Contact/Support with/for Students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Part-Time Staff</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOT on Campus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff (Telecommuting) or Faculty (Remote Teaching)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important:** It is required that all managers and employees adhere to these registry categories of employees approved to be on campus – adherence is essential to limit transmission, ensure the capability of social distancing, for contract tracing efforts, and for contact notification and other important impacts. Any cases of failure to approve by a manager or onsite visits by an employee to campuses for work outside of these requirements will be swiftly addressed by Divisional leaders and the University.

- **Test Result Notification**

UConn Health receives the testing results. Employees will have access to their test results as well. A data file will be sent back to HR with acknowledgment of positive or negative test results. HR will utilize those results to work together with employees who test positive and will not be able to return to campus as planned. HR will notify managers that are unable to return to work.

If an employee is already on campus, the manager must inform employees who have been identified as having been in close contact with an employee who has tested positive for COVID-19 and that they have been identified as an individual for whom there was sufficient contact to warrant notification. This notification should be done by phone, but if this is not possible, an email message is sufficient.

**Important:** At no time should the identity of the co-worker ever be disclosed to any other co-workers; this information should remain confidential and only known to the manager and HR unless the ill employee voluntarily discloses their status to co-workers.
o **Negative Test Result**
   - Employees with negative test results are clear to come to campus.

o **Positive Test Result**
  Employees with a positive test result must not return to campus. UConn will be using a symptom-based or a time-based strategy if you are symptomatic or asymptomatic, respectively. You will be able to return to work following notification to HR that the following conditions are met:

  **If symptomatic:**
  - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since your recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
  - At least 10 days have passed since your symptoms first appeared

  **If pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic, the following will be required:**
  - At least 7 days have passed since your positive test and you have had no symptoms of COVID-19 (you remain asymptomatic); and,
  - For 3 days (72 hours) following discontinuation of isolation, you socially distance (stay six feet away from others) and wear a mask. (Remote work is recommended in this circumstance).

  o UConn HR reserves the right to request and require any medical documentation it deems necessary to verify you can return to work.

**Vaccination Program: UConn Storrs and Regionals**

In collaboration with UConn Health, Human Resources has developed a voluntary employee vaccination program in alignment with the State of Connecticut’s vaccination phases. Employees eligible to receive the vaccination will be provided with all appropriate guidance. There is no cost to the vaccine; insurance companies will be charged the cost to administer the vaccine. Detailed planning is ongoing regarding vaccinations. More information will follow as it is developed.

**C. INTERNAL COMMUNICATION OF COVID-19 CASES**

To swiftly deal with potential hot spots and to prevent the spread of COVID-19, it is important to properly handle notifications of positive COVID-19 cases to campus officials. HR coordinates a process for notifying employees of a potential workplace COVID-19 exposure, including assisting supervisors/managers to make this notification. HR will work with EH&S to review the existing process and modify, as needed. HR will provide guidance for managers/supervisors to ensure the proper notification process. SHaW will assist in the notification process for students. The notification process will be dependent on how the University receives the information of a positive case and will be carried out as follows:

- **LHD/CT DPH Initiated Reporting (if there is a Public Health Need)** – SHaW or EH&S will field inquiries and reach out to appropriate UConn groups on the Storrs campus for notification procedures and follow-up activities, as deemed necessary for public health reasons. The Campus Directors will serve as the primary contacts for LHDs/CT DPH at the regional campuses

- **Employee Self-Reporting** – Notify the manager who contacts HR for developed guidance. EH&S is available for additional guidance.

- **Contractor and On-Campus External Partner Self-Reporting** – Report to a UConn representative,
who contacts HR for developed guidance. EH&S is available for additional guidance.

- Student Self-Reporting – Students are advised to self-report positive test results to SHaW.

### D. STUDENT MEDICAL CARE

- **Medical Care - Storrs**

  UConn Student Health and Wellness (SHaW) provides medical care to students on the Storrs campus. Following the State’s “Stay Safe, Stay Home” policy, SHaW is currently operating under the following conditions:

  - Storrs residential students should consider SHaW Medical Care their primary health resource if they develop symptoms of an acute illness while on campus.
  - Students who become symptomatic for COVID-19 will be evaluated by SHaW and provided telemedicine visits. Storrs residential students who test positive for COVID-19 will be placed in self-isolation or advised to return home until it is determined they are no longer infectious by SHaW Medical Care. See Part 3 of this plan on containment for more information.
  - In-person routine and “well” visits (i.e. physical exams, annual exams, immunizations) may be suspended based on staffing and COVID-19 activity.
  - The majority of clinical encounters will move to phone and telemedicine to continue to diagnose, monitor, or treat an illness or injury. See [Healthcare from your Home](https://shs.uconn.edu/coronavirus/) to make the best of your telemedicine experience.
  - Students will be pre-screened before entering the SHaW building for scheduled in-person clinical appointments.
  - Chairs in the hallways and waiting room have been spaced accordingly along with 6-ft demarcations along the floors to continue to practice social distancing as much as possible.
  - A packing list of recommended self-care items to bring to campus can be found on the SHaW Medical Care website. ([https://shs.uconn.edu/coronavirus/](https://shs.uconn.edu/coronavirus/))
  - Provide Pharmacy services at the curbside.

- **Medical Care – All other campuses**

  - Students living off-campus at all regional campuses and residential students in Stamford should consult with their primary care physician if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms as listed in section C. above.

### E. MENTAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

UConn’s Student Health and Wellness – Mental Health supports the mental and behavioral health needs of the UConn community. Individuals who are experiencing overwhelming anxiety or other mental health challenges resulting from the pandemic and its effects should seek mental health support. Mental health resources include:

- SHaW – Mental Health website with information on managing mental health during the pandemic. [https://counselling.uconn.edu/mental-health-COVID19/](https://counselling.uconn.edu/mental-health-COVID19/). There is a link to the resource F.A.C.E. C.O.V.I.D. handout for those who may be struggling with the mental and emotional aspects of COVID-19’s effects. It includes helpful written content combined with links to meditations and beneficial practices.
UConn students enrolled at the Storrs Campus, may contact SHaW—Mental Health for support. SHaW – Mental Health offers free and confidential 24/7 support for mental health crises. Crisis support is available during business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) in Arjona, 4th-floor office. After-hours support is available by phone by calling 860.486.4705. Please note that 24/7 support is available during the fall and spring semesters.

Regional campus students may contact the regional clinical case managers located at the UConn Mental Health Resource Centers on each regional campus.

- Hartford - https://mhrc.hartford.uconn.edu/
- Stamford – https://mhrc.stamford.uconn.edu/

Faculty and instructors will be provided guidance/suggestions on how to support students during the pandemic, such as, providing flexible deadlines and checking in with students during class.

Staff and faculty needing mental health support should utilize the Employee Assistance Program, administered by HR. The Employee Assistance Program provides confidential professional assessment, brief counseling, and/or timely referrals to community resources for multiple issues and concerns.

F. COVID-19 INFORMATION

COVID-19 Data Collection

SHaW along with partner departments across the University has developed an automated and centralized approach to COVID-19 data collection and management. From this automated system, pertinent information is sent to applicable departments to utilize to initiate their internal workflows. From this information, leadership can gauge appropriate actions or changes in workflow that need to occur to continue operations at a level that provides optimal safety for students and efficient management of high volume movement of students through the various monitoring and care stages of COVID-19 disease management. Aggregate data is analyzed and stratified to report various benchmarks to University leadership.

COVID-19 Dashboard

The University of Connecticut is committed to transparency as it communicates information on COVID-19 to all members of our community. UConn designed a COVID-19 Dashboard to accurately reflect statistics clearly and concisely. COVID-19 data is University-wide (excluding UConn Health) and is updated on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The university closely monitors all data and trends regarding the presence of COVID-19 on our campuses and its impact on members of our community. Any decision to modify or curtail campus operations, including residential life and in-person classes, would be made based on several factors, including the prevalence of illness in our community, our ability to provide adequate ongoing medical care and support to our residential population, and our ability to operate and maintain vital campus infrastructure.
PART 3- PLAN FOR CONTAINMENT

A. ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

In support of containing the spread of the virus, UConn has protocols in place to support isolation and quarantine, including designated space on the Storrs and Stamford campuses, providing active clinical monitoring of COVID-19 positive students and support services, including the delivery of meals for residential students on the Storrs campus.

UConn is committed to ensuring equal access for students with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Under some circumstances, students may need to be exempted from COVID-19 requirements due to disability-related reasons with approval from the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD).

- Definitions: Isolation and Quarantine.16

Isolation - Isolation is used to separate people infected with the virus (those who are sick with COVID-19 and those with no symptoms) from people who are not infected. People who are in isolation should stay home until it is safe for them to be around others.

Quarantine - Quarantine is used to keep someone who might have been exposed to COVID-19 away from others. Quarantine helps prevent the spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick or if they are infected with the virus without feeling symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from their state or local health department.

To contain the spread of the virus UConn will implement the following containment procedures:

- Student Containment Plan - Storrs

  o UConn has designated isolation locations on campus for residential students.
    - 350 beds identified for isolation utilizing the Graduate Hotel on campus.
  
  o Storrs students who test positive for COVID-19 will be placed in self-isolation or advised to return home until it is determined they are no longer infectious by SHaW Medical Care. This may involve temporarily residental students temporarily being relocated to alternative housing during their period of self-isolation. Non-residential students will be advised to self-isolate in their off-campus residence. Self-isolation means students cannot attend face-to-face instruction, other group functions, or events, and may only leave their designated isolation space to seek medical care.
  
  o When asked by SHaW staff, Storrs-based students need to supply information about their contacts so that appropriate contract tracing can be completed. Contact tracing is performed in collaboration with the EHHD.
  
  o Students who have been identified as being in close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 must self-quarantine for 14-days. In addition, these individuals will be offered testing for COVID-19 as clinically indicated. Self-quarantine means residents cannot attend face-to-face instruction, other group functions, or events. Storrs students on the meal plan may go to dining facilities and pick up food to go. Residents who live in apartments should prepare for the likelihood that they will be quarantined at some point during the semester and therefore should have enough food on hand to support a 14-day period. Storrs residents

identified as close contacts will be required to be tested for COVID-19 by SHaW Medical Care. Please note: self-quarantine periods will be repeated for subsequent exposures.

- SHaW will provide medical support to students in isolation. This includes monitoring of positive cases with daily telemedicine visits.
- Additional support services, such as meal delivery, will also be provided to Storrs residential students in isolation.
- Students who require an elevated level of care and can no longer be managed by services provided by SHaW will be transported to a local acute care facility.
- Common areas in residence halls will be closed and decontaminated, as appropriate, if a student tests positive for COVID-19.
- Any Storrs student who needs to transition to an online format due to being directed to self-isolate or self-quarantine should email the Dean of Students Office to request instructor notification.

- **Student Containment Plan - Stamford**
  - UConn Stamford has designated the Lillian Apartments as comfort care locations on campus for residential students.
  - Stamford residential students who test positive for COVID-19 will be offered a comfort care location or advised to return home until it is determined they are no longer infectious by their primary care provider. Non-residential students will be advised by their providers to self-isolate in their off-campus residence. Self-isolation means students cannot attend face-to-face instruction, other group functions, or events and may only leave their designated isolation space to seek medical care. Students who are able may choose to self-isolate at home.
  - Students who have been identified as being in close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 must self-quarantine for 14-days. Self-quarantine means residents cannot attend face-to-face instruction or other group functions or events.
  - Any Stamford campus student who needs to transition to an online format due to being directed to self-isolate or self-quarantine should email the Student Services staff at their home campus to request instructor notification.

- **Residential Staff Containment Plan**
  Residential staff who test positive for COVID-19 will be directed to self-isolate or advised to return home until it is determined they are no longer infectious. This may involve residents temporarily being relocated to alternative housing during their period of self-isolation. Self-isolation means residents cannot attend face-to-face meetings, other group functions, or events and may only leave their designated isolation space to seek medical care. Residents may choose to self-isolate at home.

**B. CONTACT TRACING**

Contact tracing is an essential public health function used in conjunction with testing to manage disease transmission in a community. It is conducted by appropriately trained and credentialed professionals and volunteers, who identify and follow up with persons who may have had close contact with a person infected with the COVID-19. Contact tracing aims to prevent the chain of disease transmission and limit the spread of infection.
• **SHaW COVID-19 Contact Tracing Plan for UConn Storrs Students**
  
  Student Health and Wellness staff in collaboration with the Eastern Highlands Health District (EHHD) is responsible for COVID-19 contact tracing for UConn Storrs students.

  - Student Health and Wellness staff will be trained in the ContaCT Connecticut state database as EHHD designees.
  - All students who are identified as positive cases of COVID-19 in the ContaCT database will be contacted by SHaW staff to perform contact tracing in collaboration with EHHD.
  - All identified contacts will be entered into the ContaCT database.
    - Storrs students who are identified as contacts will receive active monitoring and support during their recommended period of self-monitoring/self-quarantine by SHaW.
    - Non-Storrs students who are identified as contacts will receive active monitoring and support during their recommended period of self-monitoring/self-quarantine by their local health district/department.

• **COVID-19 Contact Tracing for Stamford Students in Residential Housing**

  - The process for contact tracing for students in residential housing on the Stamford campus is currently under review.
  - Stamford students will have access to the SHaW COVID-19 nurse advice line at 860.486.4700.

• **COVID-19 Contact Tracing of Non-residential Populations**

  A contact tracer from a local health department (LHD) or the CT DPH may need to contact UConn if they determine there is a public health need. They would reach out to obtain or share information for public health reasons and to facilitate further environmental controls or additional contact tracing as needed. UConn will provide key points of contact, to include SHaW for student-related matters and EH&S for matters related to all other populations (e.g., faculty, staff, contractors, non-state employees, etc.) on the Storrs campus. These key contacts will field inquiries and reach out to appropriate UConn groups for contact information or other follow up actions. The campus directors at regional campuses will serve as the primary contacts.

  - Local Health Departments for the campus municipality:
    - Avery Point: Ledge Light Health District - Stephen Mansfield, Director of Health (860) 448-4882
    - Hartford: Hartford Health Department - Liany E. Arroyo, Director Health (860) 757-4700
    - Stamford: Stamford Health Department - Jennifer A.M. Calder, Director of Health (203) 977-4398
    - Mansfield: Eastern Highland Health District – Robert L. Miller, Director of Health (860) 429-3325
    - Waterbury: Waterbury Health Department - William Quinn, Director of Health (203) 574-6780
    - All other Local Health Departments.

  [https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Local-Health-Admin/LHA/Local-Health-Administration---Site-Map](https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Local-Health-Admin/LHA/Local-Health-Administration---Site-Map)
o Any Regional campus student who needs to transition to an online format due to being directed to self-isolate or self-quarantine should email the Student Services staff at their home campus to request instructor notification.

C. HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

A complete list of Connecticut Acute Care Hospitals with contact information for the Hospital Preparedness Coordinator is attached to this plan (see Attachment 1) in the event that a surge occurs on campus and/or in the region. The closest hospital to the Storrs campus is Windham Hospital. However, hospitals in Rockville, Hartford, and John Dempsey Hospital are all less than an hour away. Stamford Hospital serves the Stamford area.

PART 4- PLAN FOR ALTERING OPERATIONS/CAMPUS - SHUTDOWN

In the event of a declared public health emergency and/or civil preparedness emergency, Connecticut state statutes confer broad authority on the governor and the commissioner of the Department of Public Health to take certain actions to protect the health and safety of the population. See CGS § 19a-131 et seq. (public health emergency); CGS § 28-1 et seq. (civil preparedness). Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont declared both a public health emergency and a civil preparedness emergency in response to COVID-19 on 10 March 2020\textsuperscript{17}. The scope of authority conferred under these statutes permits the governor and commissioner to issue orders that would effectively shut down UConn.

UConn successfully “shut down\textsuperscript{18}” all campuses and moved academic operations to all distance learning in the middle of the Spring 2020 semester. Campus operations were altered, mission-critical operations continued with limited staff, business functions were mainly carried out by remote staff, travel, study abroad programs were ceased, and special accommodations were made for students to remain in campus housing that could not go home. The same processes and procedures developed for that shut down along with lessons learned have been incorporated into planning for the fall semester.

• Shutdown Initiated by UConn if a Serious Outbreak Occurs on Campus.

The UConn President has the authority to shut down the university and will consult with state and local health officials. Additional public officials have the authority to shut down the university. This includes the Governor, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health, local campus health director (Eastern Highland Health District for the Storrs Campus), Mansfield Town Manager (Storrs Campus), and the Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

In the event of a shutdown due to the resurgence of COVID-19, students that are in isolation or quarantine following CDC guidance may remain on campus until they are no longer contagious and it is safe for them to travel. Support services will be provided to those students.

UConn will be closely monitoring federal, state, and local information on the prevalence of COVID-19 in the state or region. Led by the EPG, University departments will implement a number of actions to prepare for, and carry out, the swift and safe alteration of University operations at any or all UConn campuses. At a minimum, these activities include:

o Monitor guidance from EHHD, CT DPH, and CDC


\textsuperscript{18} Report of the Higher Education Subcommittee Reopen Connecticut calls for a plan to shutdown campus. For purposes of our plan shutting down may include closing campuses, or altering campus operations. Even if academic operations move to all distance learning critical campus and business operations will need to continue with minimal or telecommuting staff.

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o The University EPG will convene to provide guidance and direction in preparation for the shutdown.

o Convene numerous internal Working Groups (Reporting to the EPG) to provide recommendations and refined guidance in their specific area.
  ▪ Student Affairs.
  ▪ Academic Affairs & TA/GA.
  ▪ Operations.
  ▪ Fiscal.
  ▪ Research.
  ▪ Staff & Faculty (Human Resources).

o Close the Student Union and the Rec Center.

o Close the Library and transition to on-line support.

o Close the Book Store.

o Determine critical activities and services that need staff on campus.

o Implement Alternate Work Programs.
  ▪ Teleworking
  ▪ Rotational Shifts
  ▪ Alternate reduction, work schedules.

o Consider the impact on the workforce.

o Accommodate individuals with disabilities – students, faculty, and staff.

o Implement actions for research projects.
  ▪ Hard Stop
  ▪ Gradual Stop
  ▪ Continue (to include animal care).

o Ensure availability of medical consultation.
  ▪ Students.
  ▪ Staff/Faculty.

o Prepare space for isolation and quarantine.
  ▪ Provide support to students on campus in isolation or quarantine.
  ▪ Provide medical support/emotional support.
  ▪ Provide food and meal support.

o Develop public education materials for University platforms.
  ▪ Establish a public information rhythm.
  ▪ Develop daily message – email
Town Halls

UConn Website – FAQs

- Place barriers to limit access to restricted areas and post signs with emergency instructions across campus
- Participate in Governor’s Unified Command conference calls and provide updates on the status of UConn actions.
- Communicate with local public safety and health officials in each community that has a UConn campus.
- Assess the status of each campus.
- Initiate suspension of large gatherings, including conferences, student activities, and sporting events.
- Provide for mental health and spiritual needs.
- Capture, compile, and document incident costs.
- Evaluate construction projects, determine the ability to continue safely or suspend operations.
- Communicate early closing procedures for residential students.
  - Students will be notified via email and other messaging that the residential areas need to close and students need to vacate them the following steps will be followed:
    - Residential areas are closing and the reason for this. Students will be given a timeline and instructions for checking out.
    - Students will be instructed to pack and remove all belongings from their rooms/apartments and turn in their keys.
    - Students who are unable to take all their belongings with them when they move out because they have no method for transporting these items will be asked to pack and label their belongings and send them to another location. The University will provide students with information about shipping supplies and services. Belongings cannot remain on campus.
    - Students who have no other housing options except to remain on campus will be instructed to submit a request to remain on campus. This request will include rationale and documentation that supports the request. A committee of individuals will review requests and students will receive information that approved or denies their request to remain in on-campus housing.
    - Students who remain on campus may be relocated to different housing assignments if this becomes necessary.
- Notify Faculty and Staff.

**Shutdown of the State**

If the Governor of the State of Connecticut determines that a statewide shutdown is required, UConn will follow the guidance and leadership of the state to institute an orderly shutdown of the University. The same actions described above for a UConn initiated shutdown will be followed.

**Plan for the Continuation of Instruction if a Shutdown Occurs**
In March 2020, during the Spring semester, UConn, in conjunction with guidance from the State DPH and federal CDC, the decision was made to effectively shut down the university from normal operations and to transition to a 100% online learning environment. At that time, the decision was made to do so just before Spring Break. Faculty and Staff used the time in-between the start of Spring Break and the resumption of classes to pivot to 100% on-line learning. A robust support network was developed by the Provost’s Office working with the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) and Information Technologies Service (ITS). This included teaching and instructing faculty on the use of WebEx and other presentation models to ensure the fulfillment and delivery of the curriculum.

The lessons learned from this experience have postured UConn faculty to be prepared to switch (turn-on-a-dime) to a 100% on-line instruction experience. The Provost has instructed all faculty and instructors to be prepared if the University has to rapidly transition again to 100% on-line (no in-person) instruction. They are ready and prepared.

In the event of a shutdown, the plan to transition to 100% on-line instruction includes the following:

- Provide guidance to students & faculty on the transition to 100% on-line learning to include duration.
- Set the date to commence transition and provide additional time as needed to conduct the transition – by course or individually.
- Implement guidance on the use of distance education methods.
- Accommodate individuals with disabilities.
- Develop public education materials for University platforms.
- Develop daily messaging – email to address the educational challenges facing students and faculty.
- Conduct and facilitate Town Hall discussions separately targeting students and faculty to ease the transition to 100% on-line instruction.
- Provide and answer FAQs on the UConn Website – FAQs.

CONCLUSION

The implementation and execution of the UConn Reopen Plan for the Spring 2021 Semester is the result of months of planning and preparation. We, as a University, have worked closely with the Connecticut Department of Public Health in the development of policies and procedures to best protect our students, faculty, and staff. Lessons learned over the past semester have guided us in developing our overall strategy. UConn continually monitors the prevailing COVID-19 virus conditions of the communities in which our campuses reside as well as the conditions across Connecticut, regionally, and nationally. We evaluate these conditions on a daily basis and will use them to guide our decision-making over the course of the semester. UConn is ready and postured to deliver the educational standard of excellence that we are known for providing to our students by faculty and staff.

19 https://uconn.edu/public-notification/coronavirus/
## CT Acute Care Hospitals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Hospital</th>
<th>Preparedness Coordinator Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REGION 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Bridgeport | http://www.bridgeporthospital.org/ | John Pelazza  
John.pelazza@ynhh.org  
203-688-4699 / 203-650-5973 (cell) |
| Greenwich | https://www.greenwichhospital.org/ | John Pelazza  
John.pelazza@ynhh.org  
203-688-4699 / 203-650-5973 (cell) |
| Norwalk | https://www.norwalkhospital.org/ | Lorraine Salevec  
Lorraine.salevec@nuvancehealth.org  
203-852-2509 / 203-585-3391 (cell) |
| St. Vincent’s (Bridgeport) | http://www.stvincents.org | Joe Laveneziana  
joe.laveneziana@hhchealthorg  
203-576-5325 / 203-449-6341 (cell) |
| Stamford | http://www.stamhealth.org/ | Joe Hines  
jhines@stamhealth.org  
203-732-3635 / 203-962-1706 (cell) |
| **REGION 2** | | |
| Griffin (Derby) | http://www.griffinhealth.org | Joseph Burnett  
jburnett@griffinhealth.org  
203-732-7195 / 203-996-6291 (cell) |
| Mid-State (Meriden) | http://www.midstatemedical.org/ | Patrick Turek  
Patrick.turek@hhchealth.org  
860-456-9116 x2317 / 860-877-1051 (cell) |
| Milford | https://www.milfordregional.org/ | John Pelazza  
John.pelazza@ynhh.org  
203-688-4699 / 203-650-5973 (cell) |
| Yale-New Haven | http://www.ynhh.org/ | April Alfano  
april.aysseh@ynhh.org  
(203) 752-8104 (cell) |
| **REGION 3** | | |
| Middlesex (Middletown) | http://www.middlesexhealth.org | Jim Hite  
jim.hite@midhosp.org  
860-358-6597 / (860) 316-7926 (cell) |
| Bristol | https://www.bristolhealth.org/ | Donna Morris  
dmorris@bristolhospital.org  
860-585-3096 / 203-650-5973 (cell) |
| CCMC (Hartford) | http://www.connecticutchildrens.org/ | Mike Tortora  
morient@ccmckids.org  
860-545-9902 |
| Hartford | http://www.harthosp.org/ | Patrick Turek  
Patrick.turek@hhchealth.org  
860-456-9116 x2317 / 860-877-1051 (cell) |
<p>| UConn John Dempsey (Farmington) | | James Brown |</p>
<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Email Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>UConn Health Center</td>
<td><a href="mailto:james.brown@uchc.edu">james.brown@uchc.edu</a></td>
<td>860-679-3317 / (860) 818-1276 (cell)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnson Memorial (Stafford Springs)</td>
<td>Paul Wentworth</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Paul.wentworth@jmmc.com">Paul.wentworth@jmmc.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Manchester</td>
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<td>jدور<a href="mailto:atio@ecn.org">atio@ecn.org</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Craig Stegmaier</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Craig.stegmaier@hhchealth.org">Craig.stegmaier@hhchealth.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rockville</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:mcasey@stmh.org">mcasey@stmh.org</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:randrews@daykimball.org">randrews@daykimball.org</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:Lorraine.salevec@nuvancehealth.org">Lorraine.salevec@nuvancehealth.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Waterbury</td>
<td>Ryan Crichton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rcrichton@wtbyhosp.org">rcrichton@wtbyhosp.org</a></td>
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**REGION 4**

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**REGION 5**

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